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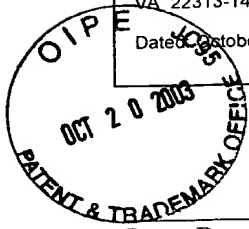
Docket No.: 28682/71114
(PATENT)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: October 16, 2003

Signature:

Richard H. Anderson
(Richard H. Anderson)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Tie Lan, et al.

Application No.: 09/870239

Art Unit: 1714

Filed: May 30, 2001

Examiner: K. I. Wyrozebski Lee

For: **INTERCALATES AND EXFOLIATES
THEREOF HAVING AN IMPROVED LEVEL
OF EXTRACTABLE MATERIAL**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.